

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.:	10/576,744	Confirmation No.:	8258
Applicant(s):	Duke		
Filed:	April 21, 2006		
Art Unit:	3643		
Examiner:	TBA		
Title:	MILKING EQUIPMENT AND METHOD		

Docket No.: 031617/310635  
Customer No.: 00826

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
37 CFR § 1.115**

Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment and amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.